

AKC DELEGATE REPORT

November 2021

Prudence G. Hlatky

This report will cover the September 2021 Delegates Meeting. The minutes from both the Delegate meeting and the AKC Board of Directors meetings are already available on the AKC site. Please take time to read the AKC Secretary's page in the Gazette to see what changes may have been made in your area of interest.

Going back to the in-person meeting format limited the number of meetings I could attend. But I have reviewed the other committee meeting minutes and have included items of interest to us.

Delegate Meeting

At the December meeting we will be voting on six different amendment proposals. These have already been published in the AKC Gazette for you to review. The amendment of most interest is the voting on the option to divide the BBE class by age. This would allow for a Puppy 6-9 BBE, and a Puppy 9-12 BBE class, plus the regular BBE class. The BCOA Board has instructed me to vote in favor of this amendment. If it passes we could have this option for our 2022 National.

Delegate Committee Meetings – items of note

AKC Purebred Preservation Bank - A presentation by the committee developing the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank was shown at the Delegate's meeting. This committee is developing, along with Parent Club input, the guidelines for the creation of an AKC sponsored sperm bank. Tentatively the proposal would be for breeders to turn over ownership of nominated frozen semen to the AKC. The AKC through a 501(C3) organization would then pay for the upkeep and storage of this semen. This would prevent the loss of valuable genetic diversity that currently occurs when stored semen is lost when payments to the storage facility are stopped due to a variety of reasons.

This is a long term program. Think 'It's For The Breed' not something aimed at current individual breeding programs. The goal is to help a breed to survive and the Preservation Bank to become a resource for breeders in the future. Once the frozen semen is turned over to the AKC the donor loses all control of the semen. Currently some of the issues facing the committee are: accepting and distributing the semen, the Parent Club developing breed specific guidelines on what semen to accept, how long before it can be made available for use, genetic health testing, and so on.

The AKC is asking each Parent Club that plans on joining the Purebred Preservation Bank to nominate a member to be the Parent Club liaison in developing the guidelines for a specific breed. If you are interested in this role, please let your Regional Governor, the BCOA President or myself know. The Board has seen the committee's presentation and now has to decide if the BCOA should join.

Best Practices - Currently the Junior's Subcommittee, the Specialty Show Committee, the Parent Club Committee, and the Meet the Breed Committees are developing Best Practice Guidelines that I will share when they become available.

Member Involvement - Over the past year I have forwarded many notices on to the Health Committee, the legislative Committee and to the BCOA Board to share with our members. I've updated the AKC on our Junior's Chair coordinator. But it is frustrating when I receive a Delegate AKC update on changes to a program or an area of interest that no member in the club has taken ownership of. All I can do is remind the membership to read the Secretary's Page in the AKC Gazette for updates in the arenas they play in. For example, rule changes occurred in CATS, Dock Diving, Obedience, Rally and many more. If you would like to be the contact person and coordinator for a specific area please let me or the Board know.

Regards,

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